

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The non-final Office Action of February 11, 2011, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 1, 9, 12, 23, 37, and 47 have been amended. Claims 1-50 remain pending in this application. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Request for Examiner Interview

If the Office intends to issue another Office Action, Applicants respectfully request an interview prior to such action. This case has been pending since 2001, and Applicants are desirous of reaching agreement regarding allowable subject matter as soon as practicable. The examiner may contact Applicants' undersigned counsel at (202) 824-3153.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102/103

Claims 1-4, 9-10, 12, 15, 18-19, 23, 26, 29-30, 34, 37, 40, 43, 47 and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,865,167, hereinafter Famolari.

Claims 2, 13, 24 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,865,167, hereinafter Famolari, in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,728,531, hereinafter Lee.

Claims 3, 14, 25 and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,865,167, hereinafter Famolari, in view of admitted prior art.

Claims 5-6, 11, 20-22, 31-33 and 44-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,865,167, hereinafter Famolari, in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,519,455, hereinafter McCormick.

Claims 7, 16, 27, 35, 41 and 49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,865,167, hereinafter Famolari, in view of Examiner's Official notice.

Claims 8, 17, 28, 36, 42 and 50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,865,167, hereinafter Famolari, in view of U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2001/0036834, hereinafter Das.

The independent claims have been amended to indicate that the multicast session information is usable by a mobile terminal to connect to a multicast session. The multicast session information in Fomolari does not include information that is usable to connect to a multicast session. Rather, Fomolari describes a system whereby each base station is transmitting multicast session data to the mobile terminal, instead of a system that transmits multicast session information for a plurality of cells comprising the first cell and a second cell, said information usable to connect to a multicast session, as recited in claim 1. More specifically, Fomolari states:

The broadcast message is transmitted by the base stations to the mobile terminal via the plurality of multicast network connections between the base stations and the mobile terminal's multicast IP network interfaces. Each multicast message includes the same message information, and thus the same information is sent from the base stations to the mobile terminal through the multicast network connections. Thus, soft handoff of the mobile terminal on the forward link is achieved because the wireless IP network backbone and base stations simultaneously communicate the same information to the mobile terminal through the plurality of multicast network connections.

Fomolari, col. 4, lines 14-25 (emphasis added). Claim 1 recites receiving from a base station corresponding to the first cell a broadcast message communicating multicast session information for a plurality of cells comprising the first cell and a second cell, said information usable to connect to a multicast session. On the contrary, Fomolari describes a system that transmits redundant information from each base station. Indeed, Fomolari is silent with respect to the content of each message, and makes no reference or suggestion that a message sent by one base station contains the claimed multicast session information for a first cell AND a second cell. The rejection of claim 1 is therefore traversed. Independent claims 9, 12, 23, 37 and 47 have been similarly amended, and are thus allowable for at least similar reasons as claim 1.

Independent claims 34 and 48 each recite that the multicast session information includes information that maps link-level access parameters in each of a plurality of cells to the multicast session, which is not taught or suggested by Fomolari. Indeed, Fomolari is silent with respect to the content of multicast messages that are redundantly broadcast from multiple base stations, with the outcome being that each base station broadcasts its own connection information, rather

than the claimed session announcement comprising information that maps link-level access parameters in each of a **plurality** of cells to the multicast session.

Each dependent claim is allowable for at least the same reason as its respective base claim, and further in view of the additional features recited therein, because the additionally cited references do not cure the aforementioned deficiencies of Fomolari.

CONCLUSION

All issues having been addressed, Applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicits prompt notification of the same. However, if for any reason the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance or there are any questions, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (202) 824-3153.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

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By: /Ross Dannenberg/
Ross Dannenberg, Registration No. 49,024
1100 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
Tel: (202) 824-3000
Fax: (202) 824-3001

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